

TESTIMONY ON H.B. No. 6667, HB 6816 and HB 6817

I do not support these Bills and I urge you to vote NO! Each of these Bills is an abomination on its own – but together, this is a disgrace! The people that wrote these, including this current governor, are only interested in one thing – fooling the public at large. They do NOTHING to stop crime and violence and they DO NOTHING to address the root causes of violence. They merely trample on the rights of law-abiding citizens!

There is a strong likelihood these are unconstitutional, in spite of advice you may have received, but that has never stopped the stupidity and ignorance that occurs daily at the State Capitol from occurring.

When you take suicides out of the statistics, firearms are the tool used by violent individuals in some 20,000 deaths a year. Do you understand that there were 1.2 million violent crimes (reported) in the US (as reported by the FBI)?

If you want to do something meaningful, develop laws and programs that will have an effect on the root causes of violence (regardless of the tool that person used)! Drugs (mostly powerful prescription drugs) and mental health are the MAIN causes of violent behavior. Next to that are the children who grow up in single-parent homes and have no choice but to turn to violence and crime to survive – and a big part of that is our horrible, horrible, public education system in the cities.

Think for yourselves about what the problems are and then work towards meaningful solutions. There are many people like me happy to get involved to guide you.

But please stop with this nonsense. Use your time to effect meaningful change.

But please VOTE NO on these Bills.

Michael Barton